

NOVEMBER 20, 1925

The AMERICAN LEGION *Weekly*



KEP

~it not only looks
like a money maker~
but it is a money maker!

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STRENGTHEN OUR POST FINANCIALLY STOP WE HAVE GREATER SUCCESS WITH
SUCH A PICTURE THAN ANY OTHER SORT OF BENEFIT AND FIND IT PAYS
BETTER AND IS MUCH LESS WORK STOP THE LOST BATTALION GOES OVER THE
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HARRY LICHTY POST NO 394

THE LOST BATTALION

The Most Dramatic and Thrilling Episode of the World War!

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THAT EVERY AMERICAN LEGION POST IN AMERICA SHOULD SHOW!

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IT FAIRLY SMOKES WITH ACTION

Americans thrill with patriotic pride when they hear the story of The Lost Battalion of the World War, the tensest, most dramatic, most gripping incident of America's part in the great conflict.

To give the nation an opportunity to "feel" this epic action as they could not otherwise do, a motion picture faithfully depicting this historic event, with an interwoven tale of delightful romance, was produced.

The story of the dogged stand of The Lost Battalion is firmly fixed in the history of America. For six bitter days and nights these heroes of 1918 clung to their hillside, galled by enemy fire from every direction, hugging the hope that somehow relief would come.

Death lurked in every bush, behind every tiny mound. Out of the tree-tops the spiteful fire of machine guns hailed upon them. Nor was this all. Hunger, privation, the terrible agony of wounds were worse than enemy sharpshooters and machine gun nests.

Then came a demand for surrender—a demand met with instant refusal, a renewal of battle—rescue, victory.

You will like "THE LOST BATTALION"—and you will never forget it.



The AMERICAN LEGION Weekly



MARQUIS JAMES' thrilling story on the Jeannette expedition entitled "The Farther North You Go, the Colder It Gets," published in the October 23d issue of the Weekly, was read with more than usual appreciation in one American Legion household. "I have read the article on the Jeannette expedition commanded by Lieutenant Commander George W. De Long," writes Walter Sands Mills. "Commander De Long left one child, a daughter, whom I married October 25, 1893. She died April 18, 1925. We had two children—Emma De Long Mills, a graduate of Wellesley in 1917, who served as a nurse in 1918 and 1919, and a son, De Long Mills, a graduate of Annapolis in 1920, now a lieutenant in the flying corps of the Navy. My son and I both belong to Captain Belvidere Brooks Post of New York City. I was a captain in the Medical Corps of the Army. My wife and daughter helped organize our post auxiliary unit and my wife was president of the unit in 1921. On behalf of my wife's mother, Mrs. Emma De Long, my children and myself I wish to thank you for your article."

* * *

IF YOU are one of those accurate and methodical persons who can finish the month with the bank balance shown on your check book stubs matching the balance which the bank reports you have, you may find a little recreation in figuring out how the age groups of the veterans of Averageville—as given on the editorial page in this issue—compare with the age groups of the World War service men in your town. Averageville, however, is comparatively a small town, having but 100 veterans of the World War. Minneapolis, Minnesota, is too large to stand for Averageville, and it has seventeen Legion posts, but Edward C. Nicholson, speaking for Mark Hamilton Post of Minneapolis, presents to the rest of the Legion some other interesting facts about a typical post's membership. "Twenty-eight percent of the post's 134 members range in age up to 29," writes Mr. Nicholson. "Forty percent are from 30 to 34, 25 percent from 35 to 39 and 7 percent are over 40."

* * *

MARK HAMILTON POST publishes a post roster of 45 pages, listing alphabetically the names of all members, together with their business and home addresses, tele-

phonic numbers and occupations. Mr. Nicholson says: "A rough analysis of the information contained in this roster and in our personal data file discloses that 50 percent of our members are married and 25 percent have children. Twenty-five percent are professional men (such as accountants, attorneys, physicians, engineers and ministers); 20 percent are company officers or business men, and the remaining 45 percent are skilled workers in some 34 lines of endeavor, including street car conductors, commercial club secretaries, foremen, mechanics, postal clerks, railroad trainmen and so on. Fifty percent of our members own automobiles. No data is available on home owners. The members consider that this is just an average post, conservatively inclined, in a city where seventeen posts range from radical to reactionary. While we have 134 members this year, the names of over 1,000 members have passed through our membership records since the post was organized."

* * *

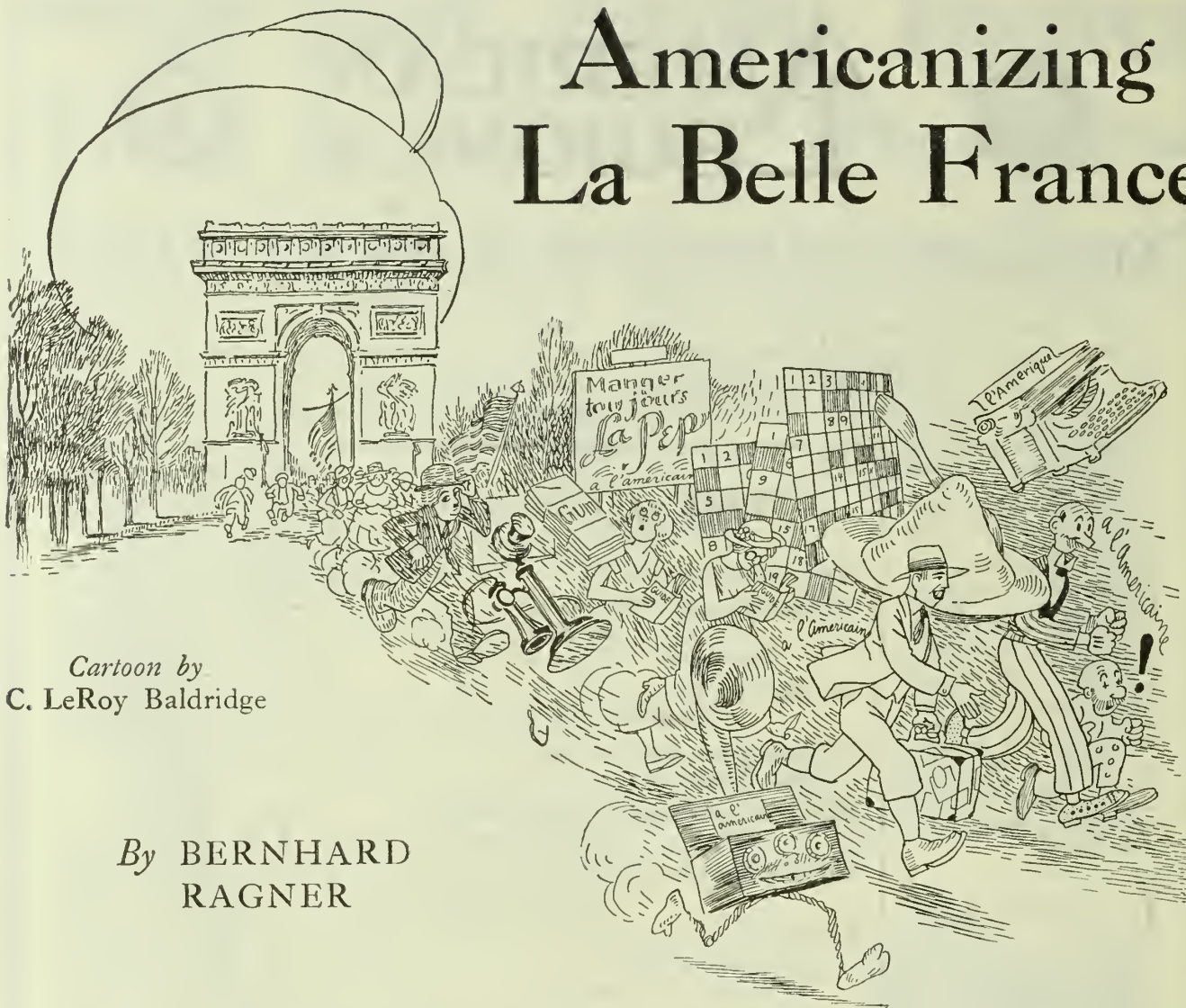
THE final sentence of Mr. Nicholson's letter calls attention to an important factor of the Legion's national membership problem. Frank E. Samuel, director of the Organization and Membership Division at National Headquarters, says the percentage of Legionnaires moving from one town to another has been very heavy during the years of the Legion's existence. This movement is only natural, since most Legionnaires were comparatively young when they came out of the Army to get a new foothold in civil life. But, unfortunately, many of the

men who have torn loose from the moorings of their old home community have neglected to make in their new homes corresponding associations. Active in the Legion before moving, they have not made proper contact with the Legion in the towns where they are now living. In time, as these transplanted Legionnaires develop acquaintanceship in their new homes, they will come back into active Legion membership. Mr. Samuel urges the need of getting them back in now, as a part of the 1926 campaign to increase the Legion's membership to a million men. In addition, Mr. Samuel urges that whenever a Legionnaire moves from one town to another, the adjutant of his old post supply him with a certificate of transfer so that he can immediately affiliate with the post in the town where he intends to live.

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Americanizing La Belle France



By BERNHARD
RAGNER

Begun by the A. E. F., this Americanization of France is being continued by another expeditionary force of actors, tourists, salesmen, engineers and industrial experts. Ice cream; press agents; "safety first"; American methods of extracting money from the public for sweet charity's sake; comic

Pope's much-quoted lines about vice—"We first endure, then pity, then embrace"—describe the Americanization

And so, when it comes to fads, France is generally the tail to the American kite. Often, the fads retain their popularity years after they are

forgotten in the U. S. A. Take the film by episodes, as an example, with a new chapter shown every week; it died a deserved and natural death long before the war in America. But in France it still reigns supreme. You can't go into a motion picture show without having one or two episodic films imposed upon you.

Before the war, ice cream was practically unknown in France; it existed but merely in the *hotels de luxe*. The A. E. F. put this American dessert upon the menu of every up-to-date hotel and café; the sundae and the soda have not yet reached popular favor, but ice cream is here to stay. Waffles; Vermont sausage (manufactured in France!); pancakes; cranberry sauce; Hawaiian pineapple; Columbia River salmon; California peaches and pears; American condensed milk; Quaker Oats; some of the "57 Varieties"—

house inventions would disappear. No letters could be written in business houses (except by hand) because there would be no Underwood or Remington typewriters upon which to write them. There would be no daily trial balances in Paris banks since American calculating machines would vanish. Paris would have no traffic problem (now being solved in American style) since, with American automobiles gone, those that remained would not and could not worry the Paris police. Thousands of men would be obliged to grow beards or compel the barbers to work overtime since the Gillette safety razor would be among the casualties. (*En passant*, it may be remarked that the smooth-shaven face, minus both beard and mustache as in America, gains thousands of recruits each month.) French agriculture as a whole would go into bankruptcy; in the fertile fields of France, only manual labor could be performed, since McCormick reapers, harvesters, etc., would disappear. Thou-

Americanization of the French press. France, like America, has had her Danas and Greeleys, but they have passed from the stage. Today, France has her equivalents of Mr. Ochs, Mr. Munsey and Mr. Curtis. No longer does a Henri Rochefort overthrow an empire with a series of satiric epigrams; instead, the modern newspaper proprietor interests himself, in France as in America, in advertising lineage, circulation figures, and news "beats". "It is true," mournfully remarks Clement Vautel, the witty Paris columnist, "that the French press, Americanized to excess, has strangled its own spirit, intelligence and reason, with its more or less special dispatches." But he writes this plaint in *Le Journal*, which is half-Americanized already!

In years gone by, the chief duty of a French newspaper was to express opinions; printing the news was incidental. "Them days are gone forever," to quote the comic strip, which has also been introduced into France. Andy



these are the soldiers that America, with considerable success, is using in her gastronomic warfare upon France.

From the standpoint of mechanical contrivances, if some malevolent sorcerer, with a stroke of his magic wand, could destroy every American invention in France tonight, he would throw the French social system into chaos at once. Such a catastrophe would hurl business life into disorder and ruin, deprive hundreds of thousands of their jobs, and provoke a revolution in comparison with which the affair of 1789 would be merely a spring zephyr.

Exaggeration? Not a bit of it! This is what would happen: There would be no newspapers, because they are all composed on Mergenthaler linotypes of American manufacture. Half of the vaudeville shows would go out of business since there would be no American acts. There would be practically no trains in operation, because Westinghouse airbrakes would be gone; no street cars, since other Westing-

sands of French dressmakers would be thrown out of work, since Singer sewing machines would exist no more. Other casualties would be the Ever-sharp pencil, the Eastman kodak, the Edison lamp, National Cash Registers, Waterman fountain pens, Walkover shoes, Ford automobiles, Victor talking machines and Stetson hats. Even the imagination of a Jules Verne would be inadequate to visualize the havoc which would be wrought should American products suddenly disappear from France. In addition to the contrivances mentioned above, there are thousands of others, of American origin, that are necessary for the normal functioning of France's industrial and business life. Further, most of these inventions have no French equivalents, since in the realm of mechanics, France depends largely on America. Suppose it all vanished over night! I want to be A. W. O. L. when that happens.

Paris today has three American daily newspapers, and they are hastening the

Gump has become Père Mirliton; Chester has changed his name to Nestor. Indeed, *Le Petit Parisien*, which claims the largest daily newspaper circulation in the world, about a million and three quarters, has been completely Americanized in everything except the language. The fact that the wife of the owner is an American may have had something to do with it. *Le Petit Parisien* is a newspaper, not a party organ; it doesn't mix news with comment; it keeps its editorials off the front page; it "plays" its news according to American standards, and Senator Dupuy believes with American newspaper proprietors that his business is to sell papers and adver-

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As OTHERS SEE Us

HOW much do we, as Legionnaires, know what our fellow-citizens think of us as Legionnaires, and of the Legion as an organization? When we come right out and ask them, they're complimentary. Of course they are. You're complimentary, too, when someone asks you what you think of some society or fraternal organization—if you know he belongs to it. If a Legionnaire from the next town asks you what you think of his post, you will tell him it's doing good work. That's human nature.

But what do folks really think of the Legion, and of the post in their home town? That is a question we all should like to know the answer to. For one thing, it gives us a way of checking up on how our post is taking its place in the community.

The Weekly wanted to find out what the representative people of some typical Legion town think of the Legion. There seemed to be just one good way to find out: Have someone unknown to the inhabitants visit a town and ask questions.

That is how this article had its origin. Fairbury, Illinois, was selected because it was reasonably accessible; its 2,500 population is almost entirely native in tradition and ancestry; it is an agricultural town, dependent on the trade of the farmers in the surrounding country. Fairbury is just about a typical Legion town. How it regards its Legion post may be considered just about typical of how the average American community regards the Legion as it is represented by its local post.

I descended on Fairbury at 1:30 of a Saturday afternoon. And my first errand was to find change for a five-dollar bill, to pay the driver of the Ford who had brought me over from Chenoa, a main-line town. The nearest store was Fuller's cigar and candy store. After I had my change and had paid the driver, I bought a chocolate bar and began asking questions of the young lady in Fuller's store—who was, it developed, Miss Orma Fuller.

"There's a Legion post here, isn't there?"

"Yes. It's a good-sized post for Fairbury, too."

"What good does it do the town?" I inquired—and was met with a look of surprise. It was plain that I was not an altogether proper sort of person, to be doubting the post's value.

"A whole lot," she assured me. "It celebrates the holidays for us—has full charge of Decoration Day and the Fourth of July. And it gets behind anything that is good for the town. Why? Are you interested in Legion work?"

"Yes, considerably," I had to admit. "How's the post here on making money—do they bother the merchants considerably?"

"No, they don't. They put on a couple of shows a year and sometimes do some other things to make money. But anything that the Legion puts on

By ARTHUR VAN
VLISINGEN, JR.

THE Weekly asked Mr. Van Vlissingen to visit any town of his choice and find out, in the manner of a casual stranger, just what folks thought of The American Legion as they viewed the organization through the men and acts of the local post. Chiefly as a matter of geographical convenience Mr. Van Vlissingen chose Fairbury, Illinois, a town of 2,500 inhabitants in the heart of a farming community. What he learned in the course of an afternoon's conversation with the townspeople of Fairbury he relates in this article.

is always worth the price of the ticket."

"I suppose they come around and tell you it's your duty to buy a lot of tickets because it's for the Legion post," I suggested.

"They do not," she denied indignantly. "They come around and offer you tickets, and if you don't buy any they're just as nice about it as they can be. And when they lose money on some affair they don't come canvassing down Main Street asking us to pay a second time to make up their loss. They stand it themselves."

SO MY next stop was at a store where, I knew, a member of the firm is one of the most active Legionnaires in the Department of Illinois.

"What I want first," I told him, "is a list of the places to keep away from in Fairbury because they are too close to the Legion in their connections. For instance, if I hadn't known about you and had come in here asking questions, either you would have told me only the post's side of it here or else you'd have had me arrested as a suspicious character. And after I proved that I was on legitimate business, you might have spread word around town to tell me a fine story. That would spoil what I am trying to find out."

So I was given a list of places to avoid—stores and offices where Legionnaires or their families would be found. And then came a list of the representative people of the town whose opinions should be had—the suggestions came from me, the names from the local Legionnaire. There was the town's mayor, the president of the chamber of commerce, the superintendent of schools, the most prominent

banker, two outstanding clergymen, one or two others.

As we were finishing the list my host dashed for the door and stopped a man who was passing. Then he led me out and introduced me to Rev. W. C. Chapman, pastor of the Christian Church and chairman of the local pastors' association; he left us to talk in confidence. After we had talked for a few minutes we were joined by Dr. C. S. Davies of the Presbyterian Church.

It is hard to report such a three-man conversation verbatim. Perhaps it will be better simply to state the composite opinions of these two clergymen—for, in general, they agreed in their estimates of the Legion and its worth to the town.

In the first place, they agreed that the post is steadying down—that it is showing a greater maturity of thought and general consideration of others in its activities than ever it did before. The post had never sponsored anything which was vicious or unclean; but in the past there had been an occasional tendency to overstep the bounds of good taste, or to stand for something which was not well thought of by a mature, conservative element of the people. Now the post is showing almost none of this tendency. In consequence, it is building up public opinion in its favor throughout the better elements of the population.

Fairbury has held to strict observance of Sunday. And this is because public sentiment is for it. The Legion post, of all the institutions or organizations in town, might most easily overstep the rules—"Nobody would feel like stepping in and compelling them to stop," as Mr. Chapman remarked.

But, where sentiment inside the Legion post has by no means been for a cessation of activities on Sunday, the post has been willing to comply with public and church sentiment in this respect. There was, for instance, the question of Sunday baseball. The post tried out week-day baseball as a source of revenue—and found that it wouldn't pay. Then it switched over to Sunday baseball and began to make money fast. It didn't occur to the post that there would be any objection to clean, healthy outdoor sport on Sunday. But there was.

And, out of respect for this feeling, the Legion absolutely gave up baseball. It sold its equipment—at a loss—and gave up a revenue of over \$500 a year.

It was much the same when the post was going to show "The Man Without a Country" in October of 1921. The town has no Sunday movies; public sentiment has prevented them. The post, when it decided to show this film, decided that Sunday would be the day. The principal reason, of course, is that the opera house can be rented conveniently on Sunday, while on all other days it has its own movie program.

But when one of the town's clergymen protested that the performance would prove the opening wedge for
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The late Christy Mathewson, Legionnaire and greatest baseball pitcher of them all, preparing to turn the first spadeful of earth for St. Petersburg Post's playground. Beside him, facing the youngsters, is W. E. Wakeman, commander of the post

In Memory of a Big Heart and a Mighty Hand

FABLE upon fable, the glory of Florida has grown until the rest of the country now carries a mental picture of Florida as a vast gridiron of endless real estate allotments, every city booming, every town catching the vision of itself as a future metropolis and in the open spaces between the towns and cities new town and suburban sites stretching mile upon mile.

St. Petersburg, like the other cities of Florida, has grown rapidly in the last few years. New buildings have sprung into the gaps of the business streets and real estate men have swarmed through the city buying and selling or holding for future bigger profits almost every bit of obtainable land. Land values, naturally, have gone sky high.

This was the situation in St. Petersburg a year ago when St. Petersburg Post of The American Legion, in following out its program of providing recreation facilities for all the children of the city, began to look about for a tract of land suitable for a playground for boys and girls of high-school age living in St. Petersburg's south side.

The post already had provided a number of playgrounds for the boys and girls of St. Petersburg. Most of these had been established near public schools, and the whole city had ap-

plauded the Legion for its enterprise. Inspired by the Legion's example, Edwin Gould, millionaire philanthropist, a member of the Gould family associated with the development of American railroads, donated many thousands of dollars' worth of equipment to the Legion playgrounds. The playgrounds were immensely popular. Under the palm trees in weather like June the year round, laughing, healthy boys and girls played tag, used the swings, coasted down the slides, developed their lungs on cinder tracks and played baseball, basketball and handball.

Luckily the first playgrounds were all flourishing before the Florida real estate boom became a national phenomenon. And even after the boom had set in, restricting the choice of sites for playgrounds, St. Petersburg Post had succeeded in obtaining for the older boys and girls of St. Petersburg the privilege of using during most of the year Yankee Park, the splendid big-league baseball diamond used for a few weeks in the spring by the New York Yankees in training for their playing season. That park provided a play spot, ideally suited for baseball and basketball, for one section of St. Petersburg, the north side, but it left the other half of the city, the south side, unprovided for. In the south side there was the park of the Boston Braves, but that park, when

not used by the Braves for their spring training, was used the year round by Florida league teams.

But St. Petersburg Post was determined to give the south side the playground it needed. And it found, in its search, one tract of land which luckily was out of reach of those promoting real-estate developments. There was a spot on the waterfront owned by the city which had been overlooked in the city's advance. It was a large ungraded lot, and when the Legion post first turned its eyes upon it it was being used as a dumping ground—an ugly defacement of the fair landscape surrounding it.

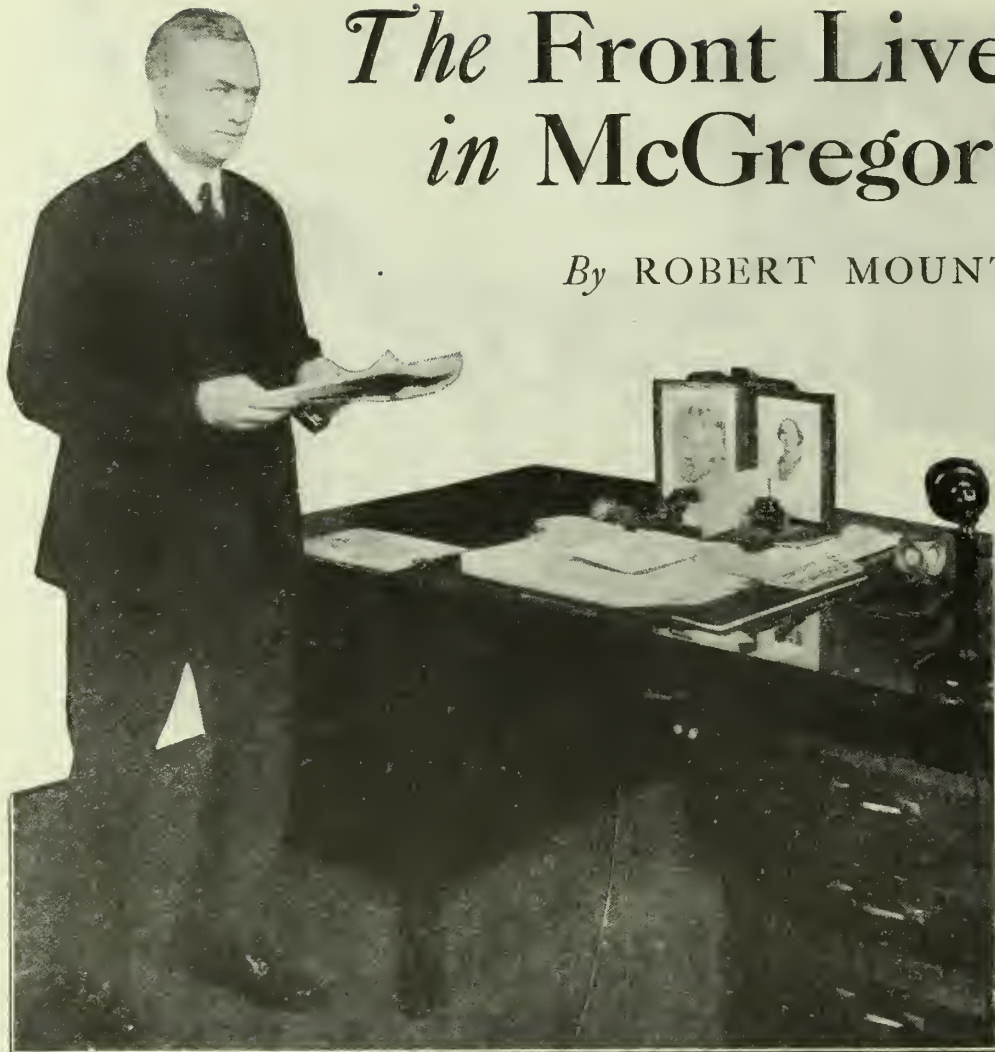
The Legionnaires persuaded the city council to set aside this tract as a playground for the use of the older boys and girls of the south side. The Legionnaires then cleaned it up, removed all the debris, graded it and laid out a baseball diamond.

Fate decreed that this playground should become a memorial to one of the greatest baseball players of all time, a Legionnaire. For it was Christy Mathewson who turned the first spadeful of earth when the Legionnaires, with a public ceremony, began the work of fixing up the playground. And upon the handle of the spade he used was a silver plaque bearing his name and the date of the

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The Front Lives Again in McGregor's Life

By ROBERT MOUNTSIER



Dr. W. J. McGregor lost both his legs when German artillery got the range of a British first-aid station in which he was working at Cambrai. He fought his disabilities so successfully that he became coroner of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. Pittsburgh brings back the front to him many times in a year with its cases of sudden death on which he must issue findings

to a point one inch above the knee, and with two Rowley legs and two canes, Dr. McGregor returned to Pittsburgh. He took up his general practice again, but he found that he tired very quickly through using up a lot of energy in making calls and that because of the missing limbs he had great difficulty getting to and from homes where his patients lived.

A change was necessary, and he became medical director for the Westinghouse Airbrake

Co. and subsidiary companies. He remained in this position until 1921, when he was elected coroner for Allegheny County. With Pittsburgh and the rest of Allegheny County killing people more rapidly than most counties of the country, his work at times must remind him of his army service.

To a person sitting in his office above the Morgue and waiting while he attends to the disposition of pressing cases, life seems to be one body after another—an arrival at the Morgue below; somebody hit by a switching engine on a railroad; a miner killed by a fall of slate in a mine up the Monongahela River; a suicide on the North Side; a workman crushed by an electric crane in one of the steel mills; the victim of an automobile accident, and on and on until you feel that every telephone ring means a dead person.

The doctor's little family has more than filled the place of his old legs, continuing to mean more than life itself to Dr. McGregor, for one reason because when he went into the army he left behind his wife, Emily McGregor, and two children, Mabel, aged 3, and Margaret, just half her sister's age. The daughters are now past 10 and 9, and there's a boy, almost one year old. It's not violating any confidence to say that he has the finest pair of legs in Allegheny county.

FROM running a casualty clearing station in France and becoming one of its cases on a hectic day in 1918 to directing another kind of casualty clearing station in the United States is some jump, especially for a man with a double amputation, but the distance has been negotiated by Dr. W. J. McGregor, formerly an A. E. F. medical officer attached to the British army and now coroner of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, which Pittsburgh in the course of a year of crime, industry and traffic provides with enough dead and injured to make a boche bombing squadron envious.

When W. J. McGregor was graduated back in 1911 with the two initials of M. D. to put after his name, there was nothing in his horoscope or stethoscope to indicate that he would be salvaging wounded in one of the tightest squeezes the British forces were destined to experience in the World War. He expected to live and die as doctors do. After two years of hospital work he went into general practice, and he was busy at it when the United States declared war in 1917. Enlisting early to avoid the rush, Dr. McGregor was sent to London in July, 1917, as Lieutenant McGregor and as one of a group of unattached casual officers. The English placed him in charge of a Manchester hospital which had mostly heart and shell-shock cases, and there he led an uneventful but busy life.

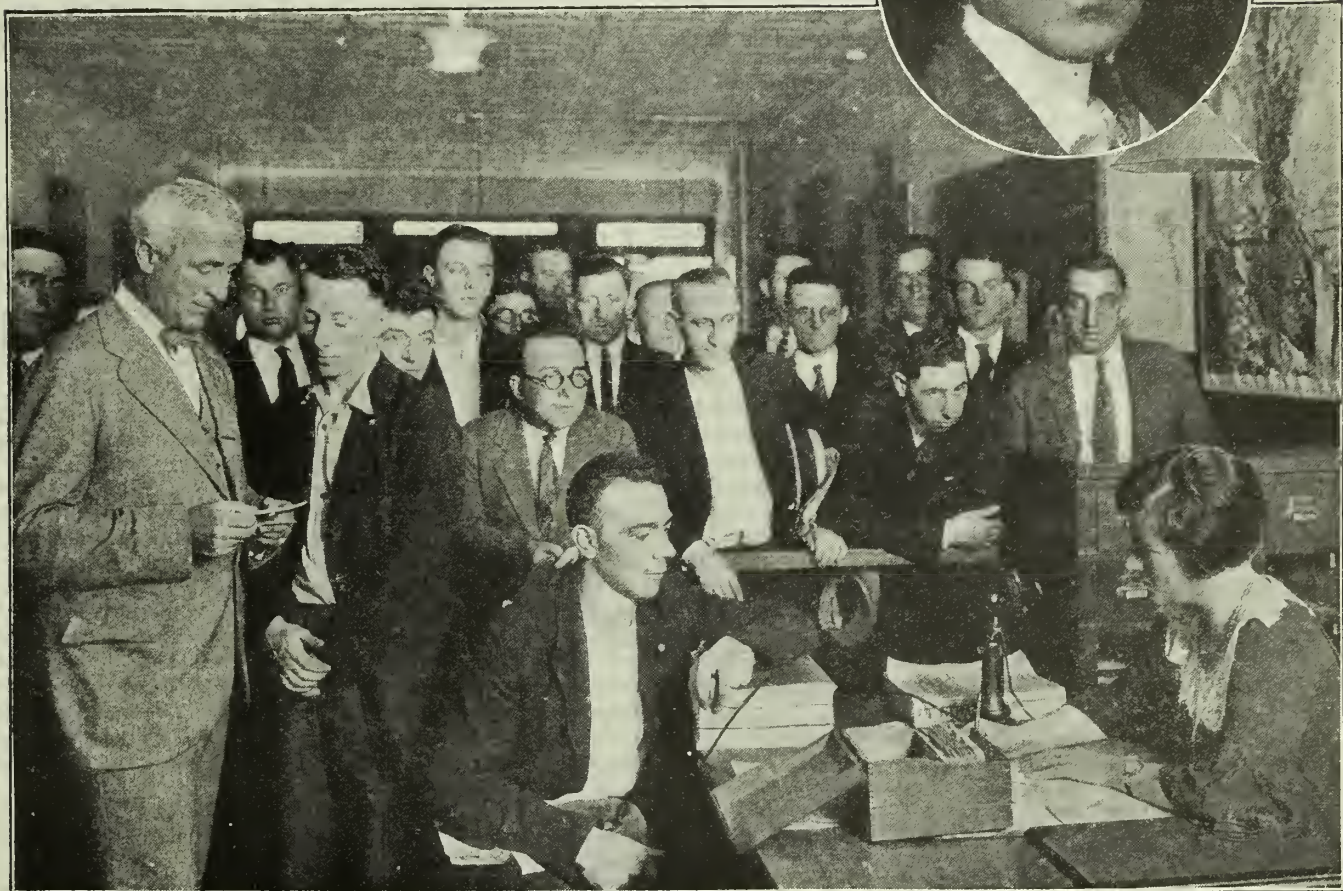
In December he was detailed to No. 6 Field Hospital with the Second Division of the Third British Army, which was holding a stretch of line near Cambrai. After a few weeks he was attached as battalion medical officer to a machine gun battalion of the same division. On March 27th he received a wound in the left knee from a German machine gun bullet, but he carried on. Two days later, when his outfit was moving into line, and he with them, the boche artillery got the road they were using. Lieutenant McGregor saw his 5-point-9 coming. It hit quite near him, and he remembered going up, also coming down.

If he had lost consciousness he would probably have bled to death, but his mind kept working even if his legs refused. Seeing that his left leg had been blown off, Captain McGregor first proceeded to stop the flow of blood. His right leg was badly crushed. At a casualty clearing station his left leg was trimmed up, and later his right leg was amputated just above the knee.

On December 30, 1918, Lieutenant McGregor decided it was time for him to get busy as a physician instead of hanging around as a patient, so he left Walter Reed Hospital at Washington in a taxi, and in twenty-four hours was headed for home with a discharge and compensation arrangement.

With three inches of stump below his left knee, with his right leg minus

All They Want Is to Sign the Payroll



Jobless vets taking their troubles to the right place, the American Legion Employment and Welfare Bureau of New York County, New York, which gets work for ex-service men in the metropolitan area. At the extreme left of the picture is Harold L. Downey, who besides building skyscrapers is executive director of the bureau and counselor and friend to the jobless vet. Inset, Robert G. Patterson, one of the applicants for a job through the bureau in 1922. He is now an associate editor of a newspaper syndicate as well as president of the bureau

ROBERT G. PATTERSON was one of the 800,000 ex-service men who were out of work during the slump in the first part of 1922. Patterson is a newspaperman but just then he would have been willing to turn his hand to almost anything, temporarily. With this end in view he paid a visit to The American Legion Employment Bureau of New York County—which county comprises the Manhattan Island part of New York City.

Mr. Patterson is still to be seen about that Bureau, which has greatly expanded its activities in the three and a half years since his first visit. Mr. Patterson is past commander of the New York County Council of the Legion now, and president of the Legion employment bureau which he once solicited for work. He did not get a job through this employment office of the Legion, as it happened. He got one on his own hook with the magazine, *Current Opinion*. He is now one of

By HARRY J.
QUIGLEY

the editors of the McClure Newspaper Syndicate.

The full name of the relief organization of which he is now the head is The American Legion Employment and Welfare Bureau. Obtaining employment for jobless veterans is only a small part of its job. It is prepared to meet all kinds of emergencies that befall veterans or members of their families, and on Manhattan Island there are a lot of veterans and consequently a lot of emergencies. Since it was created the Bureau has obtained employment for more than 7,500 veterans. It has secured \$70,000 in cash relief for destitute families. Its agents visit 1,500 disabled veterans in hospitals every month. It is of great assistance to the local office of the Vet-

erans Bureau in the distribution of government relief and the amount of compensation claims it has been able to have decided in favor of veterans would run into several hundred thousand dollars. The Bureau arranges country outings for the mothers and children of indigent veterans, obtains the appointment of competent guardians for veterans' orphans, and gives an annual Christmas party for needy veterans' children.

The chairman and executive director of the Bureau since 1922 has been Harold L. Downey, but this Bureau is not the only monument to the Downey family on Manhattan Island. The Downeys have been building contractors in New York since before the Civil War, and some of the skyscrapers they have built have helped to make Manhattan's skyline famous. But busy as he is, Mr. Downey is at his employment bureau almost every day. He talks to those who come there for

(Continued on page 16)

EDITORIAL

FOR God and country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes: To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our association in the Great War; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.—Preamble to Constitution of The American Legion.

The Legion and World Peace

The post-war veterans' associations assume the responsibility of the war-thinking for the rest of us. Any effort toward peaceful understanding with other nations, any constructive attempt to prevent the recurrence of war, is denounced by them as disloyalty and the work of traitors to their country. They labor unrestingly, not to illuminate the very complex and difficult problem of so organizing society as to make war impossible, but to thrust without the pale those who substitute for vainglorious memories of military service plans for installing safety devices against the future need of such sacrifices.—From an article, "Quantity Production of Ideas," by Cornelia James Cannon, in the September Atlantic Monthly.

SIMPLY to keep the record clear, it must be stated here that the statements made in the foregoing quotation do not reflect accurately the policy of The American Legion on world peace. For four years the Legion, as a member of the FIDAC, has been engaged jointly with the veterans' societies of the countries allied during the war in a study of war and its causes and an effort to devise means of making future wars impossible, a work which especially commends itself to those who have been through the hell of war and know at first hand what are its sacrifices. And one year ago, at its St. Paul national convention, the Legion adopted unanimously the following resolution:

RESOLVED, That the National Commander be authorized and directed to appoint an American Legion World Peace Committee, composed of ten members, which committee, after carefully considering all of the factors in the present international situation, after consultation with and consideration of the plans of the various organizations now working for peace, shall report to the national convention of the Legion in 1925 the most practical plan whereby the influence and power of the Legion may be most effectively utilized for securing permanent world peace.

The American Legion World Peace Committee, appointed under the terms of the above resolution, completed the tasks assigned it and presented a report to the Legion's 1925 national convention held in Omaha last month. That convention unanimously adopted a resolution with several striking declarations of Legion policy, notably a recommendation for the immediate adherence of the United States to a permanent court of international justice and the endorsement of international conferences "to promote world security, disarmament, the codification of international law and the arbitral settlement of disputes." The resolution further recommended to the President of the United States that he obtain at the next international conference to be attended by the United States "consideration of the problem of effectively outlawing a nation waging a war of aggression." Is this an attempt "to thrust without the pale those who substitute for vainglorious memories of military service plans for installing safety devices against the future need of such sacrifices"? Is it not rather an "effort toward peaceful understanding with other nations" and a "constructive attempt to prevent the recurrence of war"?

Applied to The American Legion, as inferentially they are applied, the statements made in the *Atlantic Monthly's* article are undeniably unjust and inaccurate. Generalizations of this sort are always dangerous. War veterans very properly have a sentimental feeling about the service they rendered for their country, but it may safely be said that nobody hates war any more than they do. The quota-

tion from the *Atlantic* may be properly appraised by contrasting it with this introductory paragraph of the resolution which was adopted by the Legion's national convention in Omaha:

The will to peace is the way to peace. No other persons know so well the nature of modern war, its horror and evils, as well as its heroism and splendid patriotism, as do the members of The American Legion. We, therefore, perhaps most of all, desire peace, provided that it be a just peace, and the members of The American Legion, together with our comrades of the World War, may well point the way to peace and good will on earth. That is a duty which we owe not only to our children, but also to those who died in the belief which America pledged to them that our war was to end war, and not otherwise may we keep faith with them.

For the Good of Averageville

IN THE town of Averageville, America, there are exactly one hundred veterans of the World War. Ten of these are not yet twenty-eight years old. Eight of them are thirty-eight or over, including grizzly Sam Fry, who enlisted as a private of artillery at fifty-three, and Colonel Alonzo Hepworth, a Spanish War veteran, who was two years older than Fry when he returned to the colors in 1917. The other eighty-two World War men in Averageville are today between twenty-eight and thirty-seven years old. A good share of those eighty-two are roughly thirty-three—a few months one side or the other of that anniversary. If you wrote down the birth years of the whole one hundred the year 1892—four-hundredth anniversary of the discovery of America—would occur most frequently.

Oddly enough, there were in Averageville in 1872 just one hundred veterans of the Civil War. At that time twenty-nine of this number were younger than twenty-eight years old, and twenty-two of them thirty-eight or older. Only forty-nine—less than half—of the hundred were between twenty-eight and thirty-seven. The middle group enjoyed a plurality but not a majority. The youngsters and the oldsters might have formed a coalition that could have outvoted them 51 to 49.

Age groups do not, of course, band together in as neat a fashion as this last hypothesis would signify. In actual fact, the three groups that constituted Averageville's veteranism in 1872 stuck together pretty well where questions affecting them as Civil War veterans were concerned—the growth and influence of the Grand Army of the Republic is ample proof of that. But did they stick together so well in other concerns of life? Did not the wide disparity in ages operate against such co-operations? Is it not inevitable that twenty-five and sixty-five should view life from more widely different angles than do thirty-two and thirty-three?

The answer may be pointless. But whatever evidence can be assembled seems to indicate that it is not pointless. Is it not reasonable to assume that the viewpoint of common age has been a powerful factor first in envisioning and then in carrying through the thousand programs for community betterment which local posts of The American Legion have to their credit? Men talk of "seeing eye to eye" with other men. Is not this unanimity more likely to occur when the eyes—the mental and social eyes—are in the heads of men whose physical eyes will begin to grow dim together a generation hence?

* * *

There has never been a pass on Thanksgiving that has not been intercepted.

* * *

The fellow who can strike out for himself ought to succeed at anything except baseball.

* * *

Dr. K. Sugimoto has come here from Tokio to teach the people of the United States how to eat rice. World War veterans will not be required to attend the doctor's classes.

A PERSONAL PAGE

by Frederick Palmer

"Football is like life," says Red Grange, most famous of football stars, who in face of the cheers of the crowds has enough sense to know that he would be no star without a team behind him. "One fellow carries the ball and gets all the credit. Yet it takes eleven men to make a team."

Wisdom From "Red" Grange

And it takes more than one man to make a Legion post; more than one post to make a nation-wide appeal for membership. The National Commander will reach the goal if all the team is behind him.

It is a matter of national human interest that "Uncle Ike" will continue to pass out the mail at Notch, Missouri.

Congratulations, I have never been in Notch, but I judge that it is smaller than Chicago or even St. Louis. On the Post Office list "Uncle Ike" is Levi Morrill.

Washington was going to retire him for age. The people of Notch rose in protest. They knew that he was only ninety years young, not ninety years old. Maybe he will still be passing out the letters when he is an hundred! Could old age, which wants to be in harness, have greater happiness than this tribute of the neighbors to "Uncle Ike" that he is still one of the "boys"?

There is no war in Europe but the daily papers read as if we had one at home. With a bullet in his back, Lieutenant Fuhrman of the New York police kept on the job until he had captured three gunmen and killed Louis Schneider, the fourth.

A Time For Severity?

The faces of these four gunmen, as published in the papers, bear the thug mark as definitely as the leopard's stripes. Schneider had been six times arrested and was out on bail. To him the law was a box of tricks and he knew how to beat the tricks. When his parents wept over him at the Morgue they said that he had always been "a good boy".

On the same day, in New York, Judge Rosalsky gave Louis Levine, aged nineteen, seven years for a holdup.

"Too heavy a sentence for one so young," complained certain theorists. They tell you that doubtless Louis, in common with half our criminals, was mentally deficient; he could not help being a criminal. They say that jail is no use; Louis must have his mental deficiency cured by gentle treatment. But the object of the sentence was not punishment. It was the law's command and it was a deterrent example. The leniency which excuses crime invites the criminal disposition to crime. It would lead Louis on in a career which might end in killing a policeman although he still might be a good boy to his mother.

When an employer was pressing for the conviction of a man with a jail record who had been caught red handed in a most vicious robbery, welfare workers begged that he be let off because he had a wife and two children to support. The only support that he had given them was by the profits of crime. The employer answered: "I'll take care of his family while he is in jail. My object is to prevent the road being made easy for other fathers to become criminals."

We have never had so much attention given to criminal psychology, never so many prescriptions for criminal re-

form, as today. Yet crime continues to increase. It costs us three billions a year. More jails in which to board the criminals means more expense; to let them run free means an increase of the terrible parasitism of crime. Armored cars, as formidable as whippet tanks in war, conveying the valuables of express companies, banks and other private concerns, course the streets of all our cities. Chief Magistrate McAdoo of New York would put five thousand new traffic policemen on unguarded street crossings to prevent holdups—five thousand whose wages would be paid by the public to prevent public robberies, not on unfrequented highways or dark alleys but in the well lighted thoroughfares of teeming populations. McAdoo would allow no one but a policeman to carry a gun. Perhaps if anyone caught with a gun on him without a permit in our big cities were sure of a year in jail it might be a good thing. A. T. D. writes from Bridgeport, Connecticut, to say that he thinks forced labor for criminals is the best plan. Should the young Levines be put to hard work in the fresh air building roads and given ruthless mental drill to cure that mental deficiency which is their excuse for crime?—an excuse of the same order, sometimes, as a slacker's in time of war.

When I am in a great city I often wonder how all the human ants rushing about make a living without growing anything that they eat or wear. I

**A Record of
One-Man Power** have the answer from an agricultural report of how one man, in Wisconsin, last year "handled a herd of nineteen cows, ten head of young stock, twenty acres of oats, forty-six acres of corn and thirty acres of hay. Before the war three men were required to do the same work on this farm. No help was hired last year except one man during the period of threshing, silo filling and corn husking. A standard type of milking machine and a special type of tractor, not yet on the market, were used."

I wonder if this man also did the family washing and mending and repaired his neighbors' radios and automobiles. The more food and other products that one man can get out of the earth by the aid of machinery, the more of us will be employed in supplying other things than food for our consumption.

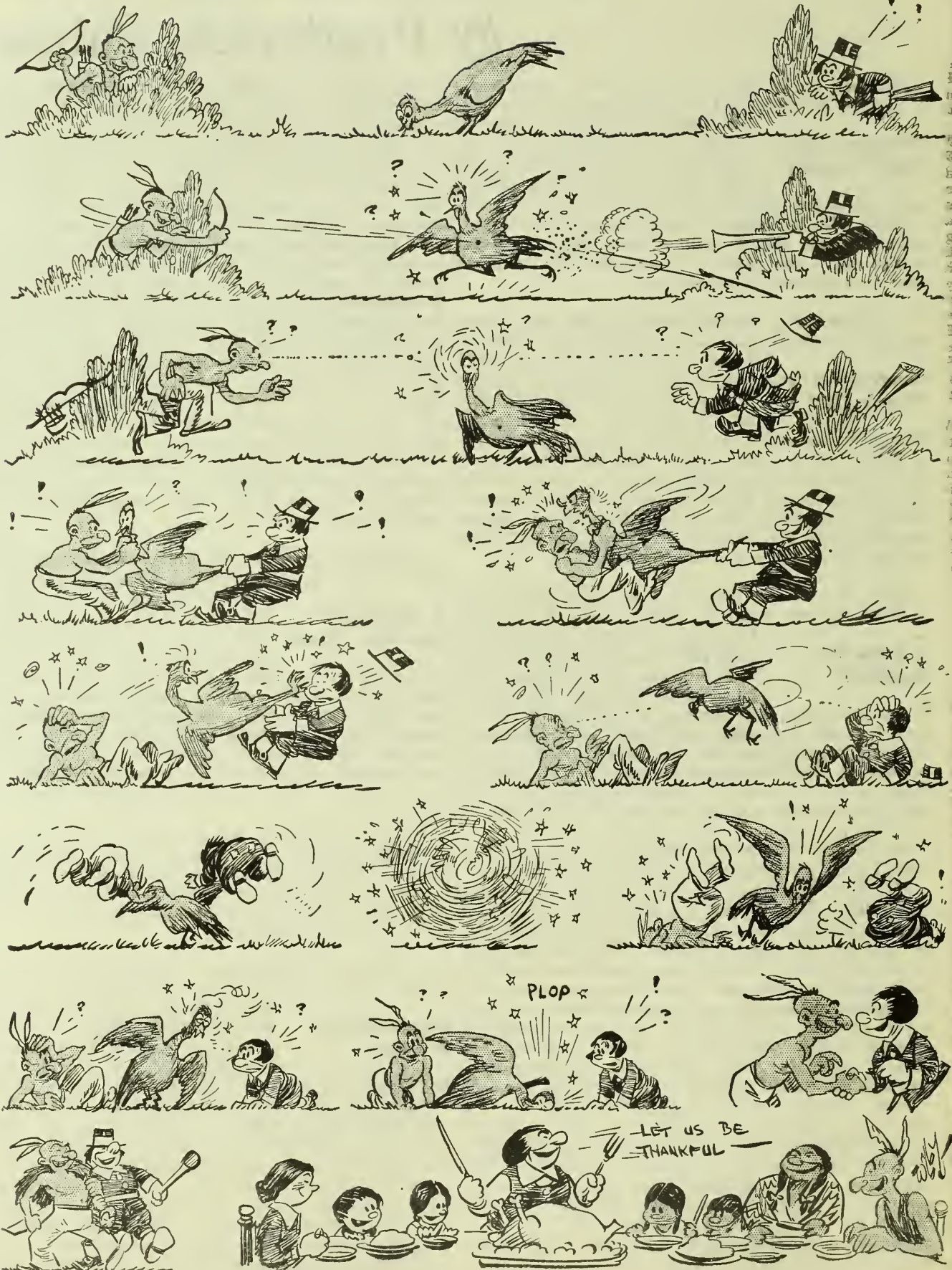
Dr. Edgar A. Doll, expert in child hygiene, says that children are not naturally bad. Our older minds make

Why Children Are Bad

them so through impatience and lack of adaptability to their young mental processes. They don't do the right thing because we don't make them understand the nature of it and the why of it. Our interest in our own comfort and convenience leads us to meet their little problems with the old cut and dried parental bromides instead of giving them careful attention. Their growing, exploring young minds must have questions thoroughly and clearly answered and must be under instruction, as their growing muscles are in training, out of as well as in school hours—and that is the parents' not the teachers' task. It is just saying again that "Education begins at home," and explaining why some college graduates are not as well educated as they think they are.

Let Us Be Thankful

By Wallgren



In Memory of a Big Heart

(Continued from page 7)

event. That spade, St. Petersburg Post had decided, should be used in the dedication of any future playgrounds the post might establish.

The world knows that Christy Mathewson died only a few weeks ago. While the country was mourning his death, and The American Legion, in national convention at Omaha, was expressing its own feelings of regret by adopting a formal resolution, the Legionnaires of St. Petersburg realized that the playground which he had helped dedicate scarcely more than a year before would always be a memorial to Christy Mathewson. They recalled that Mathewson, president of the Boston Braves baseball club after his retirement as a pitcher, had come to St. Petersburg with his team when it seemed that he had won his long battle against tuberculosis.

At Saranac Lake, New York, where Mathewson had long fought against the disease which was destined to conquer him, he had been a leader in the affairs of Saranac Post of The American Legion. The opportunity to help the St. Petersburg Legionnaires in their playground project he had accepted as a privilege, and his own spirit inspired Judge Emil Fuchs, one of the owners of the Boston baseball club, who became another supporter of the project.

The establishment of the new Legion playground in St. Petersburg may have a result which Christy Mathewson never could have anticipated. For that playground may some day produce a boys' baseball team that will win national championship honors in an American Legion national baseball tournament. The Legion, at its Omaha convention, adopted a program for the promotion of amateur baseball among the boys of the United States. The Legion's National Americanism Commission was instructed to carry out plans under which Legion posts in towns and cities throughout the country will help organize boys' baseball teams and conduct tournaments. After a series of tournaments in each State and each section of the country, the winners of state and sectional championships are to play in a national tournament to be held during the Legion's national convention. Already arrangements have been made to hold the first national Legion tournament at Philadelphia during the 1926 national convention next October.

OUTFIT REUNIONS

Announcements for this department must be received three weeks in advance of the events with which they are concerned.

MONTPELLIER A. S. D.—Annual fall reunion of members living in Chicago, Ill., and vicinity, at Columbia School of Music, 509 So. Wabash Ave., Chicago, Nov. 21, at 8 p. m. Address P. N. Mitchell, Harris Trust and Savings Bank, Chicago.

EVACUATION HOSP. 37—Annual reunion at Chicago, Nov. 21. Address H. J. Worst, 6355 S. Ada St., Chicago.

BTRY. B, 305TH F. A.—Reunion at Casino Restaurant, New York City, Nov. 21. Address Frank J. Wiesner, 8970 213th St., Belaire, N. Y.



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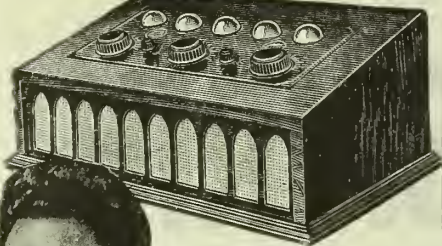
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Powerful, New Multi-tube Miraco gets long distance on loud speaker. Set, ONLY \$27.35 Retail

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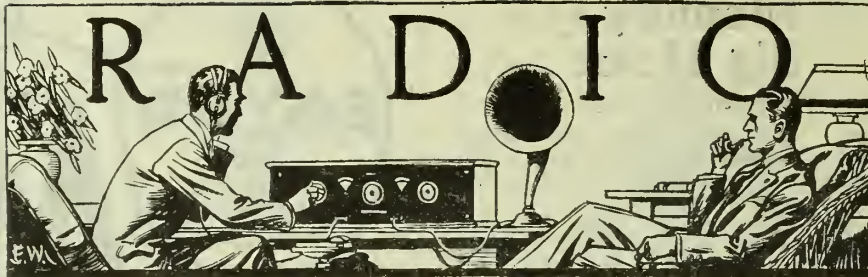
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RADIO is today's biggest business. Write at once. Let us show you how our remarkable plan will bring you **\$80 to \$125 per week** in your spare time taking orders for the marvelous Metro-dyne 5-Tube Coast to Coast set shipped direct from factory on 30 days free trial. No experience needed. You take orders after demonstration. Wonderful money making opportunity. Write at once for proposition.

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ARMISTICE Day found at least two American Legion posts officially on the air. Announcements of the special programs to be broadcast on November 11th by Warren Townsend Post of Hot Springs, Arkansas, from Station KTHS, and Oakland (California) Post from Station KLX appeared in the November 6th issue of the Weekly. The "On The Air" section of this department is open to all Legion posts and we want the posts to make use of it. Announcements should be sent in at least three weeks in advance of the dates on which programs are to be broadcast. Bert C. Moore, Regional Manager of the United States Veterans Bureau in New Orleans, with the assistance of J. E. Prudhomme, Chief of Co-operation of that office, arranged an Armistice program for the special entertainment of World War veterans which was broadcast from Station WSMB. Announcement of this program was received too late to appear in the Weekly.

How many Legion posts and individual Legionnaires were fortunate in picking up any of the programs mentioned above? We know that the men who expended time and effort in providing this entertainment would like to know how far their programs carried, how much pleasure was derived from them and would welcome any suggestions for future programs. Make report to the Radio Editor, The American Legion Weekly.

COMRADE V. RAPP, adjutant of San Pedro (California) Post, has submitted the request of Captain Harrington W. Cochran of the Third Coast Artillery for a radio receiving set to be placed in the post hospital at Fort MacArthur, California. The captain reports that Fort MacArthur is a two company post and maintains a twenty-bed hospital. San Pedro Post has been furnished with the official questionnaire and approval form of the Sun-Roxy Radio Fund of The American Legion Weekly and will make the necessary investigation of the proposed installation.

ATENTION of Legion post officials is again called to the regulations governing the distribution of the Sun-Roxy Radio Fund of The American Legion Weekly. These regulations appeared in the August 7th and 14th issues of the Weekly and again, in brief, in the October 16th and 23d issues. From the regulations it will be noted that all requests for installation of radio receiving equipment in veterans' hospitals must come through Legion posts located near the hospitals, and requests must receive the approval of the posts before the Board of Trustees of the Fund will consider them. A

number of posts have taken advantage of this opportunity to render service to disabled veterans with the cost to the posts of only a little time and inconvenience. The necessary supplies are bought by the Fund and the cost of actual installation is borne by the hospital.

WHILE the Department of Kansas deserves credit which has been given to it in these columns for introducing the approved national Legion radio plan whereby each Legion department will be called upon to broadcast an official program yearly, other departments have utilized the radio heretofore on their own initiative. The Department of Pennsylvania early in 1924 appointed a permanent Radio Committee and as a result of its activities, regular Legion programs were broadcast at Pittsburgh, Scranton, Altoona and Philadelphia. Probably the first broadcasting of the Legion initiation ceremony was performed by Tioga Post of Philadelphia from Station WDAR. When Comrade Harry E. Ehrhart, director of that station, joined the post and then found that he couldn't attend a meeting to be initiated, the post officers journeyed to the station and obligated Ehrhart according to the Legion ceremonial before the microphone of Station WDAR. Similarly, in the Department of Minnesota, two disabled buddies, patients in United States Veterans Hospital No. 68, who joined Calhoun Post of Minneapolis and were physically unable to attend a post meeting, listened in on the initiation ceremony which was broadcast from Station WLAG.

EARLY this year, the Department of Arkansas broadcast an official program from Station KTHS in Hot Springs. The program consisted of addresses on the Legion endowment campaign, legislative activities, Americanism and membership. The American Legion Auxiliary of Arkansas was also represented. In addition to the addresses, musical numbers by members of the Legion posts and Auxiliary units of the State were given. No doubt much use will be made of radio in the aggressive Legion membership campaign plan for 1926. That this method of getting members is successful is attested to by an experience in New York City. Immediately after the commander of the Kings County Legion organization of New York completed an address on Americanism from Station WJZ, a telephone message conveyed the information that thirty non-Legion veterans, members of a local club, had listened in on the speech and requested that membership application blanks be provided at once. All of the men signed up in the Legion.

Americanizing La Belle France

(Continued from page 5)

tising space, but not editorial support. When he Americanized *Le Petit Parisien*, his competitors laughed at him; but he is laughing now, since they are most of them beginning to imitate him. For the Americanized *Petit Parisien* makes money for its owner, which is the chief duty of a newspaper after all. Unless it does this, it can't do anything else.

In advertising, the Americanizing process also continues. Formerly, the French advertiser gave an "ad" to a newspaper because he belonged to the same political party, or was a friend of the editor. Today, advertising is a matter of bona fide paid circulation, as in America. The make-up of advertisements has also become Americanized, with plenty of white space, liberal use of pictures, and so forth. Even alliteration, thoroughly non-French, has been introduced. *Pibules pinks pour personnes pales*. Which indicates that patent medicines are also part of the Americanization process. Sometimes, an American directs advertising for French business firms; for example, André Citroën, the French Henry Ford, who has employed an ex-officer of the A. E. F. for this task. His latest stunt is the Americanization of the Eiffel Tower, converting it into a colossal electrical advertisement announcing the beauties of the Citroën car!

The language itself is being Americanized. If Voltaire or Rousseau should return to Paris, they would require interpreters, so great has been the influx of American expressions. If Voltaire saw the words "water closet" inscribed on a door, he wouldn't understand. He would also be nonplussed by —match de boxe, round, knockout, high life tailor (pronounced heej leeff!) skating, film, music hall, and manager. It is this invasion of American words that particularly riles the French purist.

Even such sacred things as courtship and marriage have not escaped the Americanization process. The two-passenger porch swing, so dear to American lovers, does not yet exist in France, but many other American accessories of courtship are there. Chaparrons can be found, but they are being relegated to innocuous desuetude, as Grover Cleveland once remarked. French parents are beginning to adopt the American attitude toward their daughter; they trust her and also her lover. Consequently, in many cases, the French lover can call on his sweetheart, see her alone, and escort her to the theatre, unhindered by parental espionage. The writer of this article is the husband of a Frenchwoman; his courtship and his marriage were thoroughly American. Which means that there was no dot and no marriage contract; I got the girl, which was all I wanted. Romeo still likes to have a dot when he marries Juliet, but in many instances the dot is suppressed. There are many *mariages à l'américaine* every month, and their number is increasing.

The Frenchwoman herself is changing, modeling herself after her American sisters. Sometimes, she marries the man of her choice just because she loves him, and lets the paternal thun-

ders go unheeded. She has not yet acquired the vote but this completion of the Americanization process is only a matter of time. Frenchwomen will vote; perhaps within five years.

As for business methods, thousands and thousands of them are "Made in America." Just now, the government itself is waging a nation-wide campaign to compel Frenchmen to accept checks, instead of paper money, in payment of bills. The Minister of Finance is lauding the benefits of using checks, his hope being to reduce the French bank-note circulation, thereby helping to stabilize the franc. French banks are being Americanized as far as present laws permit. Chambers of Commerce, bearing another name, have been organized to boost the interests of many a French home-town; the Chamber holds community banquets, advocates improvements, stirs up civic pride, and even offers free factory sites to manufacturers, as in America. Chain stores have been introduced; also psychological tests for employes, correspondence schools, American accounting systems and office appliances.

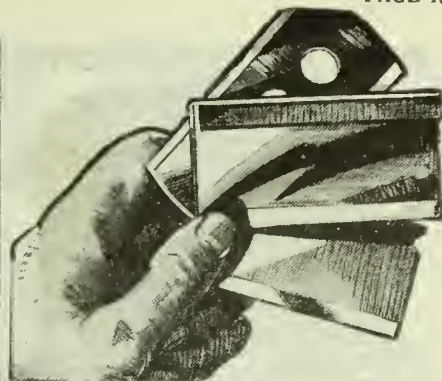
French charity has been organized and systematized, as in America; some would say it has been de-humanized as well. Financial campaigns have also been introduced. Reform movements have been put on a business basis. Even a small prohibition propaganda has been started, which will be successful about the time the Eskimo tribes choose Ecuador as their summer resort. Lobbying around the Chamber of Deputies has become just as lucrative and as thrilling a profession as around the House of Representatives. Every interest, whether moral, commercial or intellectual, has its lobby and its press agent, in Paris, as in Washington. France is a Catholic country, but the Y. M. C. A. is gaining ground; the American revival meeting has been transplanted to Paris Mission Halls; also the splendid work of the Salvation Army; Sunday School picnics are being introduced; and the most important religion born on American soil—Christian Science—has two churches in Paris.

Many social customs are being Americanized. Just last week, I saw an announcement of a French town in the Midi that was planning an Old Home Week. Modified forms of the American Chautauqua have already been established. Rotary clubs now exist in the principal cities of France. Golf, as a business man's recreation, becomes more popular every day. The Wireless Ananias Club is booming.

And so the Americanization process continues.

No wonder *La Presse* exclaims mournfully: "Every day, in every way, Paris ceases to be Paris. We are invaded by exotic American hordes and if we do not promptly expel them, France will soon have lost her charm, grace and serenity."

True, France could expel every American citizen without being harmed very much, perhaps not at all; but American inventions, appliances and methods have become such an essential part of her social structure that France cannot banish them, except at infinite peril to herself.



DON'T THROW AWAY YOUR RAZOR BLADES!

Robert H. Ingersoll, the man who gave the world the Dollar Watch, has recently invented another article of equal importance—an ingenious "dollar" device for resharpening all makes of razor blades. This device is meeting with Nation wide approval—in fact, it is sweeping the country.



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is based on an entirely new principle. It is so designed as to bring the edge of the blade automatically in contact with the leather strop, at the proper angle, thus insuring a keen cutting edge. It will last a lifetime and is so simple to use that a child can operate it. Sharpen any make of blade and make each blade good for three hundred shaves. Saves you \$10 to \$20 a year on razor blades.

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This clever invention is meeting with nationwide approval—in fact it is sweeping the country. We want good men to present it to the millions of men who are just waiting for it. No experience required. Sells at sight. Write for agents' terms.

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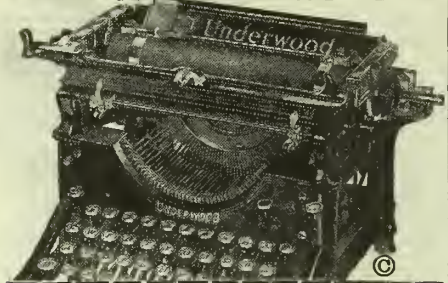
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All They Want Is to Sign the Payroll

(Continued from page 9)

relief, and rigidly supervises every activity of the organization. He has obtained the co-operation of numerous other relief societies and of the city of New York, which dispenses cash emergency relief to veterans and their families largely on the recommendation of the Legion Bureau. This work has given the Legion great prestige in New York among philanthropic and social settlement organizations.

The Veterans Bureau depends on the Legion for co-operation in New York City. Recently the Legion Bureau assisted the government organization in unraveling one of the strangest cases ever to come to the attention of the Veterans Bureau, which has handled hundreds of thousands of cases. A man without a day's service in the World War was found to have assumed the identity of a legitimate veteran

and obtained hospital treatment and \$100 a month disability compensation for two years, in addition to many other attentions from The American Legion. The genuine veteran was restored to his rights. There was no prosecution of the impostor, who though cunning and unscrupulous, nevertheless was ill and had a family on his hands. He had served in the Regular Army and in the New York National Guard before the war.

All this service costs the New York County organization of the Legion about \$18,000 a year. Roughly speaking, half of this money is raised by the annual Victory Ball which is held at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel and is one of the big events of New York's resplendent social season. The balance is made up by contributions from posts, from the public and special donations.

As Others See Us

(Continued from page 6)

commercialized Sunday movies, the post cancelled the arrangements.

After talking with the clergymen I went across the street and dropped in on W. H. Martin, president of the Fairbury Chamber of Commerce and manager of the Co-operative Coal Company.

"Well, the Legion does this town a lot of good," he asserted, in answer to the usual opening questions. "Probably its greatest effect has been in the observance of patriotic holidays. Fairbury used to slide along, and more often than not either fail to have any official celebration or have an indifferent sort. Now the post has taken charge of the holidays, complete charge. It does a good job of it, too.

"I know I like the Legion, feel mighty friendly toward it as an organization and toward the members. And pretty nearly everyone in town feels that way. I know that the business people who are active in the Chamber of Commerce respect and like the Legion post, and are willing to do just about anything the post wants done in respect to matters which the post touches.

"We are very careful about closing on the patriotic holidays now, where we weren't so careful a while back. It is absolutely a matter of the Legion post and the sentiment it represents."

Next after this came the mayor, Joseph Gerber, of the Farmers' State Bank, a few hundred feet up Main Street. "The Legion? A wonderful organization. The national organization is very highly thought of in Fairbury—and the local post is a fit representative," declared Mayor Gerber. "They get behind any good cause—and if they can't do it as a post, because it might take them into politics, they do it as individuals. There was the question of paving, for instance. There wasn't any question that it was a good thing and would benefit the town if it went through. But there was an amount of political opposition to it. The post couldn't get into it because of the political aspect. But they got out as individuals and worked their

heads off for it—and they were a very large factor in getting it through.

"They take care of patriotic holidays and similar affairs, too. They're a willing bunch of young fellows, a fine group of men. Willing? Why, in 1923 the city parks needed a little more upkeep than the authorities could give them. The post gave a couple of plays and donated a large part of the proceeds to the upkeep of the parks. It was a great thing for the town."

Next on the list came Prof. E. W. Powers, superintendent of public schools and secretary of the Livingston County Fair Association. Prof. Powers was found at the Masonic Hall, enjoying his Saturday afternoon bridge game. But he was quite willing to be interrupted to talk about the Legion.

"The Legion, and the local post, are very highly thought of here," he declared. "We believe that we have a particularly live post here, and we are proud of it. The one fault that we can find is that, at times in the past, the post's leadership has been fairly erratic.

"But this situation has pretty well remedied itself. The post remains progressive, but the membership is growing more mature. Instead of a group of twenty-three-year-old youngsters, they are now men of twenty-nine and thirty years. The age is sufficient to account for the change, plus the fact that now the post is a property owner, with its own building.

"They have worked well with the public schools—a large proportion of the Legionnaires, of course, have young children in the schools. The post ran a winter lyceum course here at a loss. Even though they knew that they could hope for nothing better than a loss, they continued to run the lyceum course for the educational and recreational value to the community.

"The Auxiliary unit of the post is very active, also. It has done a number of worthwhile things. For one, it established a rest room for the women, furnished it with wicker furniture and

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appropriate equipment, and maintains it at the unit's expense. The Auxiliary has sent oranges, money, and other gifts to the Soldiers' Orphans' Home at Normal. It has given programs for the patients of the Veterans Hospital at Dwight—and taken gifts to them, such things as tea, coffee and cigarettes.

"On the whole, the Legion is thought very highly of here, and deserves its reputation. It is a good organization, and an influence for good."

After Professor Powers came Herbert Powell, president of the Fairbury Bank, president of Walton Brothers Company department store, and outstanding financial figure of the district. He was busy, and correspondingly brief: "The Legion post here pays its bills promptly, has a good reputation, and is a good backer of worthwhile enterprises," was his statement—it was noticeable, as each person was visited, how he sized up the post from the viewpoint of his own business. Mr. Powell mentioned credit; the ministers were concerned with moral influence; the president of the chamber of commerce thought principally about its effect on the business men; and so on throughout.

There remained one more important element of the community to be heard from—the farmers. In Walton Brothers' store we encountered William Nimmo. Mr. Nimmo is the high-grade type of farmer who, by reason of intelligent farming, is able to drive a twelve-cylinder car and live exactly as well as any prosperous metropolitan business man.

"Yes, the Legion post is a great thing in this community," declared Mr. Nimmo. "It is a good influence in the community, and has everybody's respect."

"You know, one reason why I like the Legion and feel especially friendly toward it is because of the shows they give. There isn't a great deal to do in the way of amusement in a town the size of Fairbury, nor in the surrounding towns. There are the movies—and a lot of them, of course, are nothing we want the youngsters to go to if we can help it."

"The Legion post here puts on a couple of really good shows a year. They are very welcome in my household. They supply clean, wholesome amusement—we wait none too patiently from one Legion show to the next one. And I suspect that, in the minds of a good many of the farmers around here, when you say 'Legion' the first thing they think of is 'show.'"

There remained one more person to talk with. It was the automobile driver who took me over to Chenoa to catch the late afternoon train. And his was the only discordant note in the praises which had been sung all afternoon.

"Well, I've heard that a lot of Legion posts do a good many things for their towns," he pointed out. "This here post ain't much on that. It's pretty much for itself, first, last, and all the time. But I guess that's because they've been payin' for the new decorations and furnishin's for their building. Prob'ly they had to, to pay for 'em. They're a pretty good bunch of young fellas."

And this, after all, could hardly be construed as unduly harsh criticism.

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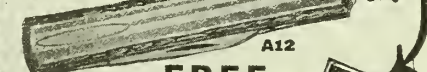
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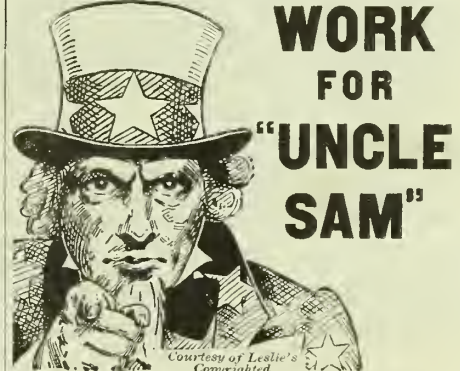
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Irrepressible Willie

To little Willie had been assigned the task of entertaining, temporarily, his mother's guest. For lack of something better to say, he asked her how she had enjoyed her vacation.

"Why, I haven't been away," she replied, "Mom must of been mistaken, then," rejoined Willie. "I heard her tell her bridge club that you and your husband had been at Swords Points for a long time."

Very Clubby

[From the Little Rock (Ark.) Democrat]

Miss Morgans is a guest of the captain, and she with another man and his wife form the entire passenger list.

Just So

"He claims he was a four-letter man in college."

"He was—Y. M. C. A."

That Gay Seaport

[From the Lincoln (Neb.) State Journal]

Mr. and Mrs. M. Weil will leave August 10 for a trip of three months to Europe. They expect to sail from New York August 15 on the steamer Paris, landing in Paris, France.

A Test Case

The absent-minded professor—no, this is another one—had wandered into the floral shop to buy Christmas decorations.

"Ah—how much is the mistletoe?" he asked the pretty clerk.

"It's very high grade," she replied, "so it's quite expensive."

"Ah—yes. Ah—in that case, before I buy, would you mind—ah—demonstrating it?"

Now! Now!

[Ad in New York Herald Tribune]

WIDOWER would like room or share modern apartment with lone lady.

A Dangerous Experiment

"Ah, Mees Spareribbe," gushed Count Rierac, "how I love your beautiful America, ze land of ze liberties!"

"Listen, count," cautioned Miss S., "I don't advise you take any with Chicago dames, unless you want to get your block knocked off!"

Nothing to Call a Customer

[Ad in Philadelphia Bulletin]

SALESMAN with or without truck, to sell frozen suckers throughout Jersey.

Final

"We do not enter into correspondence as to the reasons for rejections," snickered St. Peter, as he kicked the protesting editor down the elevator shaft.

Manufactured on the Premises

[Ad in Bradford (Pa.) Star and Record]

YE FANNY SHOPPE—Home made fish will be our specialty tomorrow.

Recognition at Last

[From the Stephenson (Mich.) Journal]

The groom was faultlessly apparelled in a blue-serge snit with trousers and vest to match, a starched shirt with pleated bosom and a striped red and blue tie, while his only ornaments were plain gold cuff-buttons and a gold watch chain with a charm. Under his right arm he carried

a natty straw hat of latest style and weave with a marine blue hat band. He was clean shaven and recently trimmed, while his features reflected deep thoughts. His feet were clad in well-polished Florsheims, which just merely showed black silk Holeproofs. A solitary carnation with fern spray background lent the finishing touch to the correctness of the groom's ensemble.

A Novelty

Ronge: "How come old Spud enlisted to fight those Riffs?"

Blanc: "Oh, he wanted to enjoy a war in a mindless sector."

Find the Superfluous Word

[Ad in Portland (Ore.) Journal]

TWO married men of meek appearance for electrical sales work.

At a Profit

A doctor had just finished taking the temperature of a stock broker, who was suffering from a raging fever.

"It's gone to 102," he announced in a hushed voice, eying the thermometer.

The half-conscious patient raised himself on his elbow.

"Sell! Sell!" he shouted.

Optimism

[From Kittanning (Pa.) Leader-Times]

NOTICE—The School Board of Washington township will receive bids by the bushel for coaling all the schools for the ensuing year.

Modern Slavery

"Does your boss work you overtime?" asked a stenog.

"Does he?" snorted her chum. "Why, he even put a luminous keyboard on my typewriter so I could work at night."

Housing Conditions

* [Ad in Peoria (Ill.) Journal]

MADISON, 509—Three rooms, furnished, private front porch; sink suitable 2 beds.

Times Change

1918—"You can't stand there, soldier!"

1925—"You can't park there, dumb-bell!"

This Sounds Suspicious

[Ad in Redfield (S. D.) Journal-Observer]

WANTED—Supply of high grade bottled milk for a family. In return I will guarantee to care for the family of the dairyman in case of his death.

Ascent

When scouting for a house and lot,

In Lonesomehurst or urban maze,

There is a point that makes us hot,

And thrusts to far financial daze.

It clouds our former pleasant ways

And overflows our bitter cup:

When prices trail the saddening phrase—

"And up."

—Thomas J. Murray.

The Astute Police

[From the Memphis (Tenn.) Commercial Appeal]

The youth's head was encased in a flour sack, tied by a string around his neck, and his hands bound with cord. There is every indication, officers said, that the boy had met with foul play.



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No. CS1 Price **\$37**



\$1 Deposit: \$3 A Month
It is amazing to be able to get this gorgeously beautiful cluster of 7 sparkling, brilliant, blue-white, genuine diamonds set in platinum, in this solid gold ring, for only \$37. It's worth \$60.

No. CS13 Price **\$25**



\$1 Deposit: \$2 A Month
All the colors of the rainbow flash and sparkle most attractively from the best quality genuine blue-white diamond set in this hand somely designed 18 Kt solid gold ring. It makes a splendid present.

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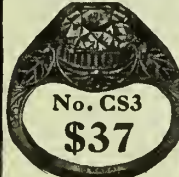
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No. CS3 **\$37**



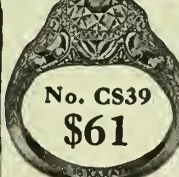
\$1 Deposit \$3 A Month
Latest style, engraved and pierced 18 Kt solid white gold mounting, set with brilliant, blue-white, genuine diamond, which flashes and sparkles with the colors of the rainbow.

No. CS4 **\$49**



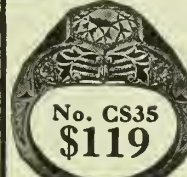
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Extra fine quality, brilliant, blue-white, genuine diamond, full of fire and sparkle, set in artically designed 18 Kt. solid gold ring, having 2 dark blue sapphires in shanks. Easily worth \$75.00.

No. CS39 **\$61**



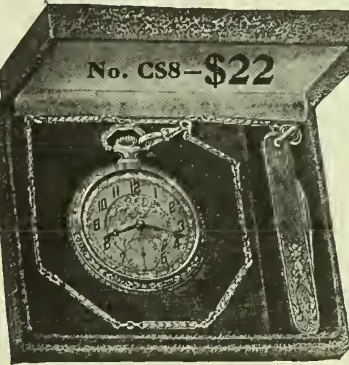
\$1 Deposit \$5 A Month
This is one of the most beautiful mounting we have ever come across. It is exquisitely designed. The gorgeously beautiful blue white diamond is full of fiery sparkling colors.

No. CS35 **\$119**



\$9 Deposit \$9 A Month
Four sparkling brilliant small diamonds are set in the sides of this attractive ring. The large diamond in the hexagon top is set off by 2 triangular dark blue sapphires.

No. CS8—**\$22**



\$1.00 Down \$1.75 a Month
ELGIN or WALTHAM
Your choice of famous Elgin or Waltham movement in this full 12 size, attractively engraved, gold filled case. Guaranteed a fine time-keeper. It comes in a handsome gift case, and the gold filled chain and knife are included absolutely free.

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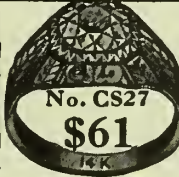
\$3 Deposit \$5.50 A Month
The 7 beautiful blue-white sparkling, brilliant genuine diamonds comprising this big cluster are set in solid platinum in the handsome ring. It looks like a solitaire of large size.

No. CS34 **\$89**



\$5 Deposit \$7 A Month
Extra large size cluster of 7 best quality fiery brilliant diamonds set in solid platinum in this beautiful mounting, which is engraved all around. Has 2 dark blue sapphires.

No. CS27 **\$61**



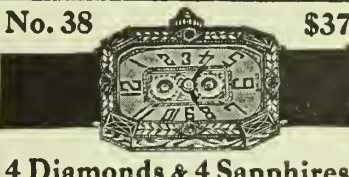
\$1 Deposit \$5 A Month
Man's 14 Kt solid green gold heavy-weight ring, attractively engraved in popular style, set with a genuine diamond that flashes and sparkles in a most attractive and fascinating manner.

No. CS 42 **\$55**



\$1 Deposit \$4.50 A Month
Three large diamonds and 2 smaller diamonds and 2 triangular dark blue sapphires are set in this latest style, attractively engraved dinner ring.

No. 38 **\$37**



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Ladies small, fashionable wrist watch, 14 Kt. solid gold case, with 15 jeweled movement, set with 4 diamonds and 4 sapphires. Former price, \$50. You save \$13.

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I enclose \$1. Send me the All Wool Blazer No. W-17. If I am not satisfied, I can return it and get my \$1 back. Otherwise, I will pay \$1.35 a month until I have paid \$8.95 in all.

(Check color wanted)

Size _____ Brown ☐ Grey ☐

Name _____

Address _____

P.O. _____ State _____